

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 14, 2000 LB 805, 805A, 1349, 1369

advice and giving the departments good advice on proposed large scale projects, that's what I'm excited about. I know we've got to have some money in this thing, but this does do something to process that I think is important in view of our experiences the last several years with any major computer project we've had. The only one I know of that's come off somewhat like it was supposed to was the century date change, and I applaud those that were involved with that. But we've had many "boonfoggles" with respect to technology (laugh). So, we hope this will improve...improve the process. I'd ask for your support. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bromm. The question is the advancement of LB 1349 to E & R Initial. Those in favor vote aye, those opposed nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 8 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 1349.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The bill is advanced. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 1369, introduced by the Urban Affairs Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 20, referred to Appropriations, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Hartnett, you're recognized to open on LB 1369.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, in 1999 we passed LB 805. This bill was introduced for two purposes. The first purpose was to authorize a comprehensive study of Nebraska's natural gas regulatory system; second was to determine if any changes need to be made in our regulatory system. LB 805A appropriated \$200,000 over the course of the biennium to fund this study. Half of the money was going to come from the General Fund and half, the other \$100,000 was going to come from the Severance Tax Fund through the State Energy Office. Unfortunately, there was no statutory authority for the severance tax transfer in LB 805, therefore the Governor line-item vetoed the transfer of the Severance Tax Fund in